

REMARKS

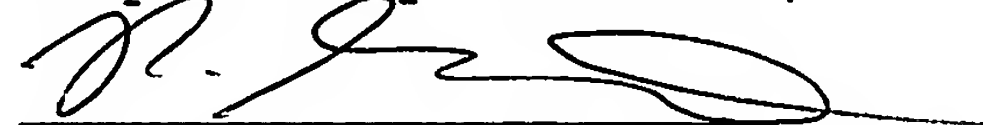
Claims 1-14 remain in this application. Claims 12-14 are allowed. Claim 1 has been rejected. Claims 2-11 have been objected to.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,947,609 to Champagne.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 2-11 have been objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2. Claim 2 has been cancelled, and claim 3 now depends from claim 1. Please remove the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) of claim 1, and enter the allowance of claims 1 and 3-11.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1 and 3-14 are respectfully solicited. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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